



The 4-story addition to the Voss Bros. storage building and office at 2125 Third avenue, has been constructed at an expenditure of \$300,000. The building is 150x50 feet. Work on the addition began last June and with few interruptions it has been pushed to completion. It is a brick structure with steel beams and concrete floors. An up-to-date elevator for the conveyance of heavy and large merchandise has been installed. Steel doors have been placed in all parts of the building. The first and second floors will be for merchandise and the heavier articles which are to be stored away. The third and fourth stories will be used for general merchandise. The building is fire-proof, no wood being used in its construction.

FOUR CHURCHES ARE STARTED IN MOLINE IN 1922

Plow City Enjoys Busy Building Year, But Figures Appeared as of 1921 Permits.

It might be said that the demand for religion in Moline was the biggest factor in boosting building activities in the Plow City last year. Four churches, costing a total of \$204,000, were started in 1922. A fifth, the Sacred Heart, which was started in 1921, was virtually completed in 1922. The amount indicated does not include furnishings, heating plants and interior fixtures, the cost of which, if added, would bring the total expenditure close to the half-million mark.

The year 1922 was a bigger building year in Moline than was 1921, despite the fact that the records of the building inspector show \$1,000,000 in permits in 1921 as against \$735,473 in the year just closed.

The 1922 figures do not include the \$1,000,000 hotel, the LeClaire theatre, the Sacred Heart church and the Dispatch building.

New church buildings were started for the First Methodist, Trinity Lutheran, Christian Science and Gordon Memorial congregations.

Sixty-seven new homes were started in 1922. The number erected in 1921 was 68. Total cost of the 1921 residences as shown by the building permits was \$304,000; the cost in 1922 was \$239,303. Reduction in the cost of building materials is the cause of this difference. One hundred seventy-nine garages were built in 1922. Repairs and remodeling jobs cost \$59,373.

The first female pleader in court is said to be one Alfrida, and Valeria Magnus says she pleaded her own causes in Rome.

EUROPE ENTERS NEW YEAR WITH WAR IMMINENT

Five Years After Signing of Armistice the World is Still in Clouds of Uncertainty.

BY HILTON BOWEN.
London, Dec. 31.—Europe five years after the war is afflicted with the same economic, territorial and racial troubles. Some Americans looking at the Old World think peace troubles may be cured by America's help. Others think it wiser for Uncle Sam to keep hands off.

Whatever you think about it, here is a tabular picture of Europe at the beginning of 1923:

England—By high taxation has succeeded in making its budget balance. Its currency is well on the way to rising to par with the dollar. But there are still about 1,500,000 persons out of work; for whose unemployment doles added taxes had to be raised. The number of jobless is a good indication of how heavily her export trade has fallen off and how hard her great industries have been hit.

France—Her devastated regions are still largely unrepared. She is still being taxed to maintain a huge standing army. Having drawn comparatively few cash payments from the Germans, her budget shows up immense deficit. Her currency is way below par. Her birth rate is still showing a dangerous decrease.

Germany—Bankrupt at home and abroad. There is a deficit of about 800 billions of marks in her budget. She faces repatriation demands from the allies that she says she cannot pay. The markets of a great part of the world are closed to her. Her imports exceed her exports and she is getting deeper into debt all the time. The existence of her republican form of government is threatened both by Bolsheviks and Monarchists.

Italy—Faced with a population the care of which taxes the ability of the farms and the factories beyond their means, the country is troubled by the immigration laws of the United States. Development is hampered by the depreciation of the lira with its consequent difficulty to buy raw materials for the factories, and by the huge debt in which the war involved her.

Belgium—Like France, she badly needs the reparations from Germany. Her currency remains depreciated. Her industry suffers from the general business depression in Europe. Internally she suffers from the contest between the French-speaking Walloons and the Flemish-speaking Flemings, which was accelerated by German propagandists during the war.

Portugal—Hopelessly in debt, with no chance for betterment in sight, owing to the frequent revolutions which have prevented the government from doing anything.

Spain—Like a deficit of over one billion pesetas in her budget. Over all over the country, owing to the popular opposition to the Spanish war in Morocco. Catalonia, of which the great industrial city of Barcelona is the metropolis, is constant further stirred by her constant demand for complete autonomy, if not independence.

Russia—Troubled with high taxes and unproductive operations in the German bank.

Switzerland—Suffering from paralysis in her two greatest industries—watch and clockmaking and hotel-keeping. The high rate of the Swiss money has kept many travelers away.

Jugoslavia—Menaced by external and internal troubles. Inside, the Croats are bitter opponents of domination by Belgrade. Externally, there is constant danger of friction with Italy over Adriatic ports and with Hungary over the territory given old Serbia by the peace treaties.

Poland—Her credit is so bad that her currency ranks at the bottom, with those of Austria and Russia. She is compelled to be constantly on the qui vive, because sooner or later the fears war on two borders—the Germans fighting to take back Upper Silesia and the Russians fighting to take back the territory lost a little over a year ago.

Czechoslovakia—In itself a healthy state, but disturbed by the presence of 3,000,000 Germans who long for union with Germany. Has great industrial and agricultural possibilities, but is suffering from business depression, owing to the fact that its currency is so much more valuable than that of possible customers.

Austria—Totally ruined, her money worth nothing and herself a mendicant, waiting to receive alms from the allies through the medium of the League of Nations.

Hungary—Seething with internal discontents, owing to the "White Terror" of the Monarchists having replaced the "Red Terror" of the Bolsheviks. Seething also with hatred, the proud Magyars are merely awaiting their chance to fight Rumania for the return of the territory west of the Transylvania mountains, and Jugoslavia for the great wheat plains which were once the bread basket of the old Austro-Hungarian empire.

Bulgaria—Surrounded by hostile states, faced by repatriation demands in the peace treaties with which she has not yet complied, and determined even by force of arms some day to reconquer a path to the sea where she can have her own port of which she was deprived by the allies.

Rumania—Troubled with crippled finances, aggravated by necessity of keeping an army ready to cope with Hungary on one side or with Russia on the other, if the latter attempts to take back Bessarabia.

Greece—With finances ruined and territory lost in her smashing defeat in Asia Minor, she is torn by revolution.

Turkey—Although victorious over

the Greeks and a constant threat to her neighbors, she is in a deplorable financial state. Her money is worth nothing and herself a mendicant, waiting to receive alms from the allies through the medium of the League of Nations.

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Japan—Suffering from paralysis in her two greatest industries—watch and clockmaking and hotel-keeping. The high rate of the Japanese money has kept many travelers away.

United States—Suffering from paralysis in her two greatest industries—watch and clockmaking and hotel-keeping. The high rate of the American money has kept many travelers away.

COUNTY COURT WORK BOOSTED BY HOOCH RAIDS

Cleanups Drive Many Criminal Cases, Mostly Liquor Violations, Before Judge.

The cleanup drive in Rock Island brought increased business to the county court in 1922, according to figures taken from the records. There were 733 criminal cases filed in 1922 as against 187 the preceding year. The number of criminal matters traceable to liquor law violations greatly overhauled all other cases.

The year also produced a greater number of civil cases than during 1921. There were 103 civil proceedings—instituted in 1922 compared to 75 in 1921. Eighty such cases were disposed of. The number of criminal cases disposed of was 149.

The county court handled more insanity cases in 1922 than during 1921, the comparison showing 106 to 121. Of this number 57 were voluntary commitments to Washington state hospital. Only one case of feeble-mindedness was heard.

Dependency cases occupy much of the attention of the county court. In 1922 there were 23 started and 23 disposed of. There were 24 adoptions, 31 inheritance tax cases, 24 widows' pensions and 18 miscellaneous orders entered. There were 46 special management cases started and 26 handled. The figures are for the period between Dec. 1, 1921 and Dec. 1, 1922.

STREET WORK COST LESSENED

Reviewing the year Mr. Wich street department, under guidance between Dec. 1, 1921, and Dec. 1, 1922, \$14,694.05 was spent in cleaning the alleys; in 1921 to clean alleys cost \$16,854, more than half the appropriation.

Cost of cleaning streets was \$4,296.25, an increase over the figure of \$4,837.60 spent in 1921. It cost \$14,270.47 to clean and repair sewers. Of this \$2,572.25 went for labor and \$500 was paid for building a storm drain at Forty-sixth street and Eighth avenue. The city of Moline paid half of this storm drain's cost, bringing the actual amount expended in the sewer department to \$4,020.47. This is nearly twice the amount expended in that department in 1921.

The street department hauled 13,385 loads of rubbish, in which work 206 men were employed. That work utilized services of three city trucks, 15 extra trucks, seven city teams and 20 extra teams.

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